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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 09/742,660 **Conf. No.** 6984
In Re Application of: Nishikawa **Art Unit:** 3639
Filed: 12/21/2000 **Dkt. #:** JP919990205US1 (IBMC-0037)
Examiner: Nelson, Freda Ann

Title: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM FOR CHARGE CALCULATIONS

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows: